

**OUR RURAL TOPICS.**

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**Some Practical Suggestions for Our  
Agricultural Readers.**

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**A Cheap Meal for Chickens.**

Procure a sheep's liver and cook it to a  
broth. Thicken it while cooking with  
a mixture of equal parts of cornmeal, bran,  
and ground oats. When cold, feed it once  
a day to the chicks, on a clean board, or  
from a trough, giving them as much as they  
will eat, and repeat this treatment.

## Oats and Vetch. 1907. 18

has grown oats and vetch together. It is suggested that several lots be sown 10 days apart and green fodder secured for nearly a month; that after the crop has been taken a crop of Hungarian grass can be grown. The station secured three tons of vetch and oats and one ton of Hungarian grass succeeding it; had it been a moist season it was certain that another ton could have been secured, making a total of five tons. The station uses five bushels of oats and 50 pounds of vetch to an acre.

Cut Worms.

With the approach of the garden season the customary pest of cut-worms must be expected as numerous as ever. The *Florist Exchange* epitomized the following list of methods for combating the worm:

Placing around the plants fruit or vegetable cans from the top of bottom have been bored with a hole. The cans should be three or four inches above the surface of the ground. The ends can be unscrewed by throwing the cans into a fire.

Plowing the ground early in September, and not allowing weeds to grow.

Plowing the ground late in the Fall or early in the Spring, keeping the surface free from weeds.

a crop on same until the middle of May or first of June. During the first 10 days of

May fresh cut clover, grass or weeds which have been dipped in water containing paris green should be strewn over the ground each evening.

Collecting the worms each evening while they are feeding. This requires good light and sharp eyes.

Each morning hunting for the fresh-cut plants.

Using "light traps" at intervals during the months of June, August and September. These traps are made by filling a tub or half cask two-thirds full of water, pouring a little kerosene over the surface and hanging a lantern over the tub.

**Keep Eggs from Chilling.**

It is a common mistake to suppose that eggs kept always in a cold place may be kept indefinitely. It is true that keeping them too warm starts the germ into life, but even then the egg is spoiled quicker and

germ is sensitive to cold almost from the first. Some workers have suggested that

to set eggs the day they are laid, and, if possible, without ever having the warmth which they received from the hen imparted. The best way of doing this is to place the eggs warm until they are set, is greatest in the early Spring months. Many eggs are kept in cold rooms where the temperature at night goes down very near the freezing point. If they are on earthen or metal shelves, they will be chilled. If they are set very rapidly, the egg will be chilled for setting long before the shell is cracked by frost. Without doubt many early settings of eggs get chilled in this way.

While the weather is cold not so many eggs should be set under the hen as when the weather is warm. If the hen is to have all the care and hatch the eggs, she will care for and hatch the eggs better when eggs will hatch with little more heat than the sun furnishes if covered with something at night to keep them from being chilled.

**Care for Common as for Fancy Hens.**

The flock of common poultry that is well kept will be very much more profitable than the flock of fancy poultry. The reason is, of course, and is compared to the hen for herself, and anything in the way of housing and feeding that is good for the finest kind of fancy poultry is just as good for the most common or native hens. Do not make the mistake of thinking that one kind of housing is necessary for a common hen, and another kind for a fancy hen. The one will increase the profits in one will decrease the profits in the other in a corresponding degree. We believe in pure-bred

who has common stock wants to get the

**Farm Notes.**

In setting out an orchard extremely rich soil is neither profitable nor to be desired if it could be made rich without expense. Most young orchards in the first few years grow too fast and make wood at the expense of fruit. If the farmer thinks the soil not rich enough, he is apt to manure the young trees with stable manure. This only makes matters worse. What is needed in most long-cultivated lands is a larger supply of the mineral fertilizers that promote fruit production.

An economical mode of growing early tomatoes, melons, etc., where but a few are desired, to produce crops for home use, is to use egg-shells. Break the shells near the small end, fill with rich dirt and plant a few seed of the kind desired. The shells are placed in a shallow pan or box of bran, and placed in the sunlight at warm days, and are kept taken not to expose them to cold at night. When transplanting simply set the shell with the plant in the ground. The roots of the plant will soon break through the shell.

Those who use incubators and are disappointed when they succeed in hatching only

look the fact that hens do no better. It is true that a hen will sometimes behave

The main objection to growing *linza* beans is the providing of supports. In some localities the poles are costly, and if they must come from a distance the hauling is an item of importance. Two strands of strong wire, fastened to poles a suitable distance apart, will answer as well as to use poles exclusively, a string to each vine guiding it to the top wire. The poles can be collected better than under the old method. The only ob-

except up and down the row; hence the

The lands best adapted to sheep are high plateaus or rolling fields. Sheep are more subject to disease on lower levels, and are so well adapted to a warm, moist atmosphere as to the rarer and dryer air of the plains. Marshy ground has a tendency to bring on foot and kindred diseases.

**A Bit of Boston English.**  
[Boston Evening Transcript.]

A correspondent sends a rare bit of English. It was written by a woman in excuse of her tardiness in answering an inquiry that had been addressed to her:

"I would have written before; but I have been sick with a dog bite in the arm. The man that owns the sawmill's dog bite me in the road."

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